

House Republican Press Release

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NATIONAL HUMANE SOCIETY HONORS REP. URBAN



The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) has bestowed its Humane State Legislator award on State Rep. Diana Urban, R-North Stonington, in recognition of her animal protection efforts. The award was presented by HSUS President and CEO Wayne Pacelle for Rep. Urban's "dedication to animal protection and strong support and leadership on many animal protection issues

during the 2006 session."

During the 2006 session, Rep. Urban introduced legislation designed to help with the spaying and neutering of pets and to control the feral cat population. Special Act 06-5 requires the Department of Agriculture to bring stakeholders together and compile data to make recommendations for the expansion of the animal population control program.

The program expansion will primarily address how to best include spaying, neutering, and vaccinating companion animals owned or adopted by low-income individuals and the needs of nonprofit organizations that assist caretakers of feral cats. Rep. Urban worked in conjunction with constituent groups concerned with protecting animals and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) for the successful passage of the legislation.

"It's been an honor and privilege to work with Representative Urban for the past 6 years," said Linda Huebner, Regional Program Manager for the New England Regional Office of The HSUS. "She has shown initiative and leadership on animal issues from humane education to performing elephants. I am looking forward to working with her on the spay/neuter expansion committee and other animal-related legislation in 2007."

"It has been a great experience working with The Humane Society of the United States on issues of animal welfare," said Rep. Urban, who serves on the Legislature's Environment Committee, which has cognizance over domestic animal issues. "The well being of our animal companions has always been a prime concern of mine. This recognition of my efforts is truly an honor and I look forward to continuing to work with the Humane Society."